

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, John C. Kirk began working for Game, Fish, and Parks on March 10, 1975, as a Resource Management Specialist, and has been a dedicated and determined voice for wildlife, water, land, and other natural resources in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, John spent more than two decades as the Wildlife Division's public lobbyist, working with legislators to craft legislation for the benefit of natural resources, and served as the department's point person on a variety of disaster task forces and in other emergency capacities; and,

Whereas, John worked effectively with private, state, and national entities on complex and long-term projects to rehabilitate watersheds and mine sites, to mitigate for large projects that impacted wildlife habitats, and to supply water to rural areas; and,

Whereas, John has worked for the protection and prosperity of wildlife and habitats, advocating for compatible economic development and use of natural resources, and for his dedication to the state's diverse resources has been recognized by colleagues, partners, and national conservation entities; and,

Whereas, In his role as a supervisor, John managed diverse groups of employees, fostering their natural skills and providing guidance and leadership; and,

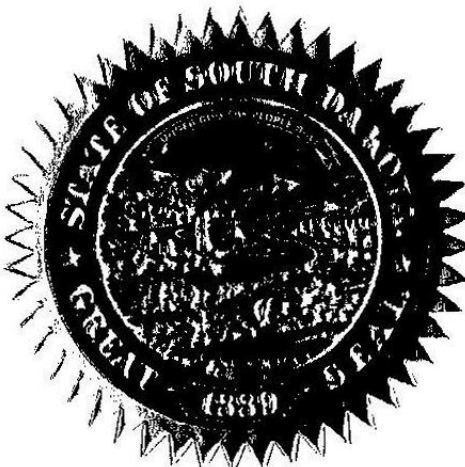
Whereas, John's stewardship legacy for South Dakota's natural resources and his professional integrity will contribute to the benefit, welfare, and enjoyment of this and future generations; and,

Whereas, All would eagerly agree that John's greatest contribution is his love for South Dakota's outdoors and his enthusiastic willingness to be an advocate for the countless opportunities that exist in our great state to enjoy these resources, and for all of this, John will be missed as he retires on January 8, 2009:

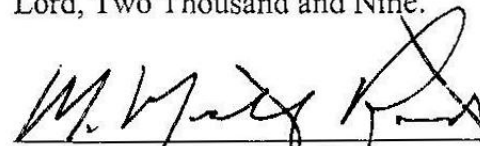
Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim January 8, 2009, as

JOHN KIRK DAY

in South Dakota, and I join his co-workers, family, and friends in congratulating him on this well-earned retirement and wishing him a long, healthy, peaceful, and enjoyable retirement.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifth Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State